WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method comprising:

in response to a first key stroke, displaying a plurality of graphical icons corresponding to running applications;

in response to a mouse input, selecting one of the graphical icons; and displaying the running application corresponding to the selected icon.

- 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the first key stroke is an ALT+TAB key combination.
- 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the mouse input is at least one of a move of a mouse pointer and a click of a mouse button.
- 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the selecting comprises:

 detecting a position of a mouse pointer on top of the selected icon;
 resolving the position into an identification of the selected icon; and
 receiving the mouse input indicating the selected icon.
- 5. A method comprising:

displaying a plurality of graphical icons representing currently running applications in response to a first key stroke;

in response to an input from a pointing device, selecting one of the graphical icons; and

switching on an operating system to the currently running application represented by the selected icon.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the first key stroke is an ALT+TAB key combination and wherein the first key stroke is sent by one of a keyboard, a touch pad, and a touch screen.

- 7. The method of claim5, wherein the pointing device is one of a mouse, a stylus, a laser pen, a trackball, a touch pad, and a touch screen.
- 8. The method of claim 5, wherein the input from the pointing device is at least one of a move of a mouse pointer and a click of a mouse button.
- 9. The method of claim 5, further comprising:

if a predetermined time period has not expired or an ESC key stroke has been received, stopping the method.

10. A machine readable medium containing program instructions for execution on a processor, which when executed by the processor, cause the processor to perform:

in response to a first key stroke, displaying a plurality of graphical icons corresponding to running applications;

in response to a first mouse input, highlighting one of the graphical icons; and in response to a second mouse input, swapping a currently selected running application for the running application corresponding to the highlighted icon.

11. The machine readable medium of claim 10, wherein the highlighting comprises: detecting a position of a mouse pointer on a display screen;

resolving the position into an identification of the graphical icon to which the mouse pointer points;

comparing the identification of the graphical icon against an identification of a currently highlighted icon; and

if the identifications do not match, calculating the number of times to press a TAB key in order to move a highlight mark from the currently highlighted icon to the graphical icon to which the mouse pointer points.

- 12. The machine readable medium of claim 10, wherein the swapping comprises: performing an ALT key release, wherein the displayed graphical icons disappear and the running application corresponding to the highlighted icon appears.
- 13. The machine readable medium of claim 10, wherein the first key stroke is a press of an ALT+TAB key combination.
- 14. The machine readable medium of claim 10, wherein the first mouse input is a move of a mouse pointer to point to one of the graphical icons.
- 15. The machine readable medium of claim 10, wherein the second mouse input is a press of a button on a mouse.
- 16. A method comprising:

displaying graphical icons representing currently running applications in response to a first key stroke;

highlighting the graphical icon representing the currently selected running application;

in response to a second key stroke, highlighting the graphical icon immediately adjacent to the highlighted icon;

in response to a first mouse input, highlighting the graphical icon designated by the first mouse input;

in response to a second mouse input, switching to the application represented by the icon designated by the first mouse input; and

in response to a release of the first key stroke, switching to the application represented by the currently highlighted icon.